

Section A) Short Answer

Answering (B)

Richard Van Camp's poem, "The Uranium Leaking from Port Radium and Rayrock Mines Is Killing Us" specifically focuses on settler colonialism - which goes beyond resource exploitation to permanent damage to Indigenous life. "The plants here have no flowers. The trees themselves are black. The fish are rolling sideways. Rain has started to fall" This is a perfect representation of environmental damage resulting from colonisation. Additionally, Colonial violence is represented in the poem where there is a color symbolism. with "blue eyes" symbolizing European dominance, "yellow tape" indicating the unresolved crime and injustice, and "black gun" representing the dystopian reality formed by colonial settlers. Richard Van Camp's poem is the representation of a powerful critique of settler colonialism's ever going effects on Indigenous communities. Through the depiction of environmental degradation, cultural displacements and intergenerational trauma, the poem reveals the immense consequences of colonial exploitation. Understanding the difference between colonialism and settler colonialism helps shape our understanding of reading poems, as it underlines the permanent goal of rupturing Indigenous heritage rather than mere control. By examining all these factors such as environmental destruction, cultural displacement, and psychological harm, we can get a better understanding of the deeply-rooted impact of settler colonialism compared to just colonialism.

Answering (C)

Samuel Hearne's *A Journey from Prince of Wales's Fort to the Northern Ocean* plays a massive role in the discursive formation of the north, bursting colonial myths of the North as barren, harsh and extremely bad conditions. We discussed in the class about the quote "*But their account differed so much from the truth that I and almost all my companions expended near four hours in search of some metal with such poor success that among us all only one piece of any size could be found*" that says Hearne's failure to find the copper bursts the colonial myth of the North as an unproductive wasteland. Another evidence we found is from the line "*The poor unhappy victims were surprised in the midst of their sleep... all fell a sacrifice to Indian barbarity*" where Hearn tells about the massacre Falls. We deliberately criticized Hearne's writing as she focuses on British fear of savage lands by giving justification for colonial expansion. Also Hearn's text is misinformed and biased and is heavily edited in the favour of colonisers. This aligns with Sherrill Grace's theory that it not only describes the north but also generates the meaning of cultural imagination in our minds.

Section B) Passage Analysis

1)

The poem is "*Lament for the Dorsets*" by **Al Purdy**.

The warmth of Ivory thought suggests the power of art and cultural memory. Even Though the Dorset people have vanished, their carvings remain, carrying the thoughts and emotions and identity of the creator. This symbolizes how art transcends through time, by preserving the past and keeping lost civilization alive in our memory.

The person described here is Kudluk, he is the last Dorset carving the ivory swan for his deceased granddaughter. He is important because he represents the last remains of a lost civilization and through his creation we unknowingly ensure that his culture is still alive.

The Idea of creation in this poem is related to cultural preservation. Kudluk's act of carving an ivory swan is a way of showing history and identity transmitted into our memory. As Al Purdy suggests that cultures may disappear but the stories, artifacts and the art can be still resonate across the generations, keeping the legacy alive.

2)

Author is Samuel Herne, he is a British explorer and fur trader. This Destination is the Coppermine river. As part of his exploration were the northern regions of current day Canada and finding the copper deposits in Hudson's Bay Company.

It is **Hudson's Bay Company (HBC)**, a British trading company in North america.

Herne discussed that people who do not engage heavily in the fur trade were happier and more self-sufficient compared to others who do not as they need not to rely on britishers or european goods. This was clearly a bad trade deal in favor of the company as the main goal was to colonize.

Although the Dene and Chipewyan workers are being paid well there is no real benefit because they are losing their tradition by cultural disruption and by having more economic dependency. This means the Indigenous people relied on HBC for fur trade instead of hunting or trapping animal. And the consequences were that the company eventually exploited them. That shows the clear achievement of colonizers.

Section C) Key Terms

1. Frontier Exploration Narrative

This is used in Samuel Hearne's travel writings, particularly his account of the Coppermine River expedition. Hearn documented his experiences navigating harsh arctic landscapes.

Example: Herne explained the paradox of colonial expansion that Indigenous people who had less contact with European trade were "by far the happiest."

2. Lament

Lament literally means grief, sorrow and often used for missed or a lost culture and person. The theme is about mourning upon the lost culture and Dorset people. Remember the Kudluk, the last person.

Example: "After 600 years, the ivory thought / is still warm," from the poem "Lament for the Dorsets" by Al Purdy.